

Epidendrum pinniferum *C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.*

Herba robusta. Caules alti, caespitosi, vaginis tubularibus arctis omnino obtecti. Folia numerosa, disticha, elliptica vel elliptico-lanceolata. Inflorescentia terminalis, perbrevis, subsessilis, basi bifurcata; rami pauciflori, decurvati. Flores subcarnosi. Sepala petalaeque late patentia. Sepala oblongo-elliptica. Petala cuneato-spathulata. Labellum columnae valde adnatum, trilobatum; lobi laterales subquadrato-dolabriformes, patentes; lobus medius sessilis, late flabellatus, apice truncatus, retusus, minute apiculatus. Columna apice truncato denticulata.

Plant tall, doubtless epiphytic. Roots fibrous, stout. Stems caespitose, about 73 cm. tall, terete, entirely concealed by close tubular sheaths which are leaf-bearing except in the lower portion, the sheathed stems up to 6 mm.

in diameter. Leaf-sheaths densely dark-verrucose. Leaves numerous, distichous, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, 7.6–11 cm. long, 1.5–2.8 cm. wide, acute and more or less complicate at the apex, cuneate toward the base, many-nerved, chartaceous in the dried specimen. Inflorescence very short, terminal, subsessile, bifurcate at the base, subtended by a lanceolate foliaceous bract; the two branches of the rachis apparently stout, recurved, 2-to 4-flowered, about 2.7 cm. or less long. Flower medium-sized, perianth segments reflexed-spreading, rather fleshy. Dorsal sepal oblong-elliptic, about 1.45–1.6 cm. long and 6–7 mm. wide, obtuse or subacute, many-nerved. Lateral sepals similar, slightly asymmetric, about 1.55–1.68 cm. long and 7 mm. wide, acute, dorsally slightly carinate with the keel much thickened at the apex. Petals cuneate-spatulate, more or less asymmetric near the apex, about 1.4–1.5 cm. long and 5.5–6 mm. wide above, obtuse or subacute. Lip adnate to the column about to the middle of the latter, deeply 3-lobed, suborbicular-quadrate in outline, abruptly cuneate below and long-decurrent on the column to its base, retuse at the apex, about 1.68 cm. long from the base of the column to the apex of a terminal lobule and 1.75–1.9 cm. wide across the lateral lobes; lateral lobes subquadrate-dolabriform, spreading, irregularly crenulate or subdentate on the outer margins; mid-lobe sessile, broadly flabellate, abruptly retuse and apiculate forming a pair of divergent lobules with truncate-rounded apex and irregular-undulate sides, about 1.48 cm. wide across the lobules; disc minutely verrucose except near the margins, obscurely bicallose at base, with the mid-nerve conspicuously callose-thickened especially near the apex; two lateral nerves on each side are somewhat thickened. Column short, stout, infundibuliform, about 8 mm. long; the truncate apical margin denticulate and abruptly thrice cut posteriorly, producing

a pair of subquadrate-oblong lobules. Pedicellate ovary slender, about 3.3 cm. long.

Epidendrum pinniferum suggests several other species. It differs from *E. cnemidophorum* Lindl. in having an abbreviated subsessile inflorescence and much broader mid-lobe of the lip. It is dissimilar to *E. Edwardsii* Ames in having shorter broader leaves, a nearly sessile inflorescence and much larger flowers.

The specific name, meaning fin-bearing, is in allusion to the lobes of the lip (particularly the mid-lobe) which simulate the fins of a fish.

COSTA RICA, " 'Matamba' (lugar situado entre Pirris y San Jerónimo). 14-V-1936." *Alfredo Brade 335* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 44326.)